

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claims 1-6 (Cancelled)

Claim 7 (Currently Amended): An antibacterial composition comprising:

- (a) at least one antibacterial salt compound,
- (b) at least one acid group-having polymerizable monomer,
- (c) at least one hydrophilic polymerizable monomer,
- (d) water, and

(e) at least one basic compound selected from the group consisting of an alkali metal hydroxide, a strong basic acid salt not having an aromatic group, and an primary, secondary or tertiary aliphatic amine

wherein the tertiary amine is selected from the group consisting of trimethylamine, triethylamine, N-ethyldiethanolamine, N-n-butyldiethanolamine, N-lauryldiethanolamine, triethanolamine, N-methyldiethanolamine dimethacrylate, triethanolamine dimethacrylate, triethanolamine trimethacrylate and mixtures thereof.

Claim 8 (Previously Presented): The antibacterial composition of claim 7, wherein the antibacterial salt compound (a) is an antibacterial pyridinium salt compound.

Claim 9 (Previously Presented): The antibacterial composition claim 7, wherein the antibacterial salt compound (a) is a polymerizable group-having antibacterial salt compound.

Claim 10 (Previously Presented): The antibacterial composition of claim 7, wherein the antibacterial salt compound (a) is a polymerizable group-having, antibacterial pyridinium salt compound.

Claim 11 (Previously Presented): The antibacterial composition of claim 7, wherein (e) is at least one alkali metal hydroxide.

Claim 12 (Previously Presented): The antibacterial composition of claim 7, wherein (e) is lithium hydroxide, potassium hydroxide or sodium hydroxide.

Claim 13 (Previously Presented): The antibacterial composition of claim 7, wherein (e) is at least one strong basic acid salt not having an aromatic group.

Claim 14 (Previously Presented): The antibacterial composition of claim 7, wherein (e) is lithium carbonate, sodium carbonate, potassium carbonate, lithium hydrogencarbonate, potassium hydrogencarbonate, sodium hydrogencarbonate, sodium formate, sodium hydrogen oxalate, sodium acetate, potassium acetate, sodium propionate, sodium borate, sodium dihydrogenphosphite, potassium dihydrogenphosphite, sodium dihydrogenphosphate, potassium dihydrogenphosphate, disodium hydrogenphosphate, or dipotassium hydrogenphosphate.

Claim 15 (Currently Amended): The antibacterial composition of claim 7, wherein (e) is at least one primary, secondary or tertiary aliphatic amine, wherein the tertiary amine is selected from the group consisting of trimethylamine, triethylamine, N-ethyldiethanolamine, N-n-butyldiethanolamine, N-lauryldiethanolamine, triethanolamine, N-methyldiethanolamine

dimethacrylate, triethanolamine dimethacrylate, triethanolamine trimethacrylate and mixtures thereof.

Claim 16 (Previously Presented): The antibacterial composition of claim 7, wherein (e) is at least one primary aliphatic amine.

Claim 17 (Previously Presented): The antibacterial composition of claim 7, wherein (e) is at least one secondary aliphatic amine.

Claim 18 (Currently Amended): The antibacterial composition of claim 7, wherein (e) is at least one tertiary aliphatic amine, wherein the tertiary amine is selected from the group consisting of trimethylamine, triethylamine, N-ethyldiethanolamine, N-n-butyl diethanolamine, N-lauryldiethanolamine, triethanolamine, N-methyldiethanolamine dimethacrylate, triethanolamine dimethacrylate, triethanolamine trimethacrylate and mixtures thereof.

Claim 19 (Currently Amended): The antibacterial composition of claim 7, wherein (e) is at least one polymerizable tertiary aliphatic amine, wherein the polymerizable tertiary amine is selected from the group consisting of N-methyldiethanolamine dimethacrylate, triethanolamine dimethacrylate and mixtures thereof.

Claim 20 (Canceled):

Claim 21 (Currently Amended): The antibacterial composition of claim 7, which further ~~contains~~ comprises (f) a polymerization initiator.

Claim 22 (New): An antibacterial composition of claim 7, wherein (e) is at least one basic compound selected from the group consisting of an alkali metal hydroxide, a strong basic acid salt not having an aromatic group, and primary, secondary or tertiary aliphatic amine

wherein the tertiary amine is selected from the group consisting of trimethylamine, triethylamine, N-ethyldiethanolamine, N-n-butyldiethanolamine, N-lauryldiethanolamine, triethanolamine, N-methyldiethanolamine dimethacrylate, triethanolamine dimethacrylate, triethanolamine trimethacrylate and mixtures thereof.

Claim 23 (New): An antibacterial composition of claim 7, wherein (e) is at least one primary, secondary or tertiary aliphatic amine,

wherein the tertiary amine is selected from the group consisting of trimethylamine, triethylamine, N-ethyldiethanolamine, N-n-butyldiethanolamine, N-lauryldiethanolamine, triethanolamine, N-methyldiethanolamine dimethacrylate, triethanolamine dimethacrylate, triethanolamine trimethacrylate and mixtures thereof.

Claim 24 (New): An antibacterial composition of claim 7, wherein (e) is at least one tertiary aliphatic amine,

wherein the tertiary amine is selected from the group consisting of trimethylamine, triethylamine, N-ethyldiethanolamine, N-n-butyldiethanolamine, N-lauryldiethanolamine, triethanolamine, N-methyldiethanolamine dimethacrylate, triethanolamine dimethacrylate, triethanolamine trimethacrylate and mixtures thereof.